



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

PROCLAMATION

California's children represent our link to the future and our hope for a brighter tomorrow. If these children are to grow into healthy and responsible adults, we must provide them with the love and protection they need and deserve.

In California, nearly 500,000 cases of child abuse and neglect are reported each year. Such mistreatment results in thousands of permanently disabled children and tens of thousands of psychologically harmed victims. The youngest of these abused children are at the highest risk for loss of life – children six and younger account for approximately 85 percent of all child abuse related deaths.

Defending the safety and well-being of children is a fundamental responsibility. Across California, local Child Abuse Prevention Councils, parents, teachers and child advocacy groups work diligently to help alleviate child abuse. This month, we remember that, everyone plays a role in preventing child abuse and neglect, and we encourage all Californians to join the fight to protect our children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim April 2005 as "Child Abuse Prevention Month."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 10th day of March 2005.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Arnold Schwarzenegger".

Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Cathy Mitchell".

Cathy Mitchell
ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE

